

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An offset printing press having plate and blanket cylinder retention mechanisms, each retention mechanism having at least one trunnion axially displaceable between an operative position and a disengaged position. Said trunnion is freely disconnected from an associated cylinder end in the disengaged position such that the plate cylinder and the blanket cylinder are removable from the printing press from between the frame structure. One of the cylinder retention mechanisms is selectively displaceable relative to the frame structure such that a distance between the cylinder axes of rotation is variable. The plate and blanket cylinders are thus removable from the printing press and substitutable with replacement cylinders having a different outer circumference. The press comprises a gear drive system which remains in gear meshed engagement with both the plate cylinder and the blanket cylinder regardless of the variable relative positions thereof.